26: Brüning--58 [7] (1902) 1928 Jívaro
116, 286, 248

For their own home production of clothing the Indians cultivate a small amount of cotton (ubúti), which they themselves spin and weave.

/331 cont./

29/ extends from the chest to about the knees, is held by a band
around the hips, but is measured so closely and fits so tightly
that at every step the leg stands out at the side fold. /332/
299 These garments, if simple pieces of cloth may be called such,
291 are made by the Jivaros from home-grown cotton and are all dyed
316 the same dark-brown. The fabric is very firm and tight; the
282 value of a piece is great, since it takes a woman a long time
302 to make one with the primitive weaving apparatus. The very
631 vain Indians make up for the lack of clothing by painting
themselves. The face is decorated with diagonal lines, often
with indentations, in red and black colors, chest and lower body
with black designs, usually rectangles or simple lines. Occa-
sionally one finds a band provided with continuous decorations
and extending diagonally across the chest, the making of which,
502 seemingly laborious, is done in the simplest manner. For it
534 one uses a wooden cylinder two and a half inches long and half an
413 inch thick, on which the design is deeply carved. The depres-
[336] sions are filled with a dye mixed with bird fat, and the cylinder
[237] is then rolled over the naked body, under firm pressure with the
hand. The designs on the body, the execution of which re-
[206] quires a longer time, are put on with a plant juice which gradu-
[531] ally becomes black; the color lasts for eight to ten days and
[674] resists even energetic attempts to wash it off. On the other
[380] hand, the red lines must be renewed constantly, and for this
purpose every Indian carries with him a small box with dye and
[412] the proper brushes in a nicely plaited bag. In the same bag a
comb elegantly put together out of long spines and a small
[422] piece of mirror are never lacking. Mirrors, along with iron
implements, are the most valuable property. If one presents
an Indian with a mirror, no matter how small, he will im-
mediately break it in order to distribute the pieces among his
301 wives or give them to his acquaintances. Men as well as women
304 usually wear one or more little rods of cane in the pierced ear-
lobes, and the women, moreover, wear under the lower lip, in
an opening which looks like a needle hole, a toothpick-like peg
(tucum) projecting horizontally, for which sewing needles are

preferably used.